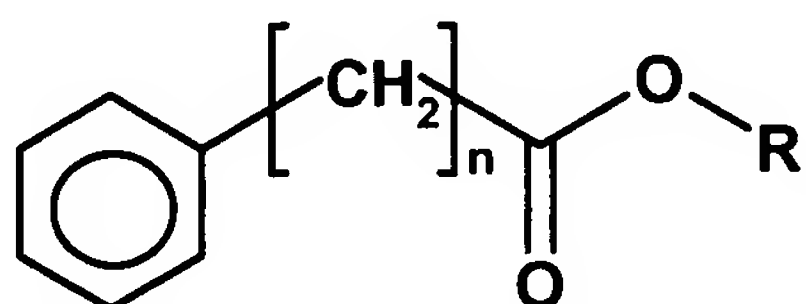


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1.-13. (Canceled).

14. (Currently Amended) Topical cosmetic composition comprising at least one HDAC inhibitor in combination with a retinoid and a cosmetically or pharmaceutically acceptable excipient or diluent, wherein the HDAC inhibitor is a compound of the formula:



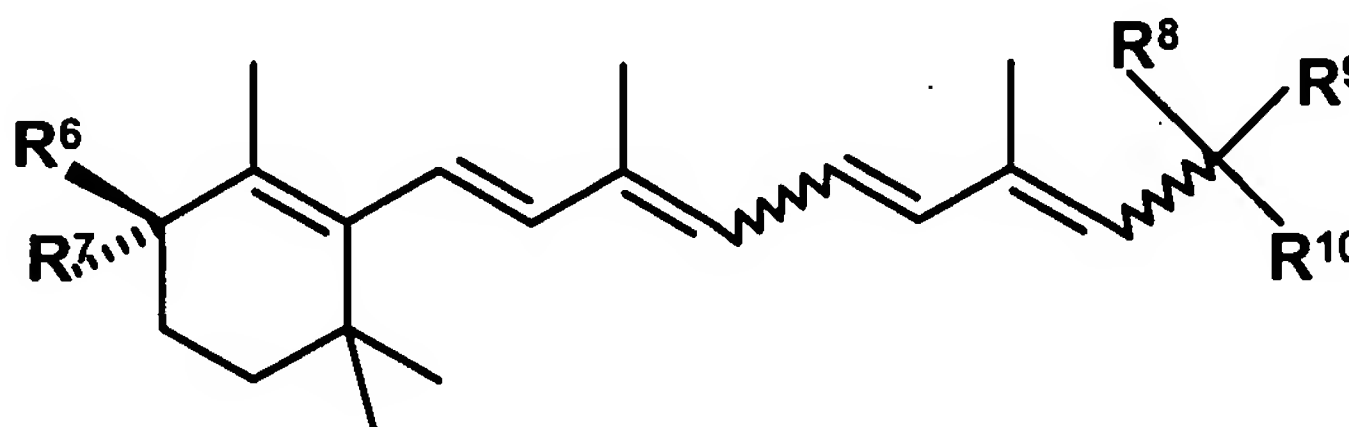
wherein

R is hydrogen or a C_1 - C_{30} hydrocarbon residue and

n is an integer of 1 to 5.

15. (Currently Amended) Topical cosmetic composition according to claim 14, wherein R is hydrogen, a C_4 - C_{20} alkyl group or a C_4 - C_{20} alkenyl group.

16. (Currently Amended) Topical cosmetic composition according to claim 14, wherein the retinoid is a compound of the formula



wherein R^6 and R^7 are independently of each other hydrogen or hydroxy or R^6 and R^7 together form an oxygen atom

R^8 and R^9 are hydrogen or R^8 and R^9 together form an oxygen atom

R^{10} is hydrogen, hydroxy or a residue OR^{11}

R^{11} is C_1 - C_{20} alkyl (preferably C_1 - C_6 alkyl), C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl (preferably C_2 - C_6 alkenyl), C_6 - C_{20} aryl, C_7 - C_{20} alkylaryl or a residue $-C(O)-R^{12}$

R^{12} is C_1 - C_{20} alkyl (preferably C_1 - C_6 alkyl) or C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl (preferably C_2 - C_6 alkenyl).

17. (Currently Amended) Topical cosmetic composition according to claim 14, wherein the composition contains the HDAC inhibitor in a concentration of 0.001 to 50 wt.-%, based on the weight of the composition.

18. (Currently Amended) Topical cosmetic composition according to claim 17, wherein the HDAC inhibitor is present in a concentration of 0.01 to 1 wt.-%, based on the weight of the composition.

19. (Currently Amended) Topical cosmetic composition according to claim 14, wherein the retinoid is present in a concentration of 0.001 to 50 wt.-%, based on the weight of the composition.

20. (Currently Amended) Topical cosmetic composition according to claim 19, wherein the retinoid is present in a concentration of 0.1 to 15 wt.-%, based on the weight of the composition.

21. (Currently Amended) Topical cosmetic composition according to claim 14, wherein the ratio of the HDAC inhibitor to the retinoid is from 30:1 to 1:30, based on the weight.

22.-24. (Canceled).